

AMENDMENTS TO SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph [0039] on page 15 of the specification, as shown in marked up form below.

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[0039] The Proactive Maintenance Application 20, therefore, is very useful for proactively maintaining the local loop of Public Switched Telephone Network. FIG. 5 is a block diagram showing an alternative embodiment configured for proactively maintaining the local loop (shown as reference numeral 78 in FIG. 4A). The proactive Maintenance Application Database 74 interfaces with several data sources to predict any needed proactive maintenance. These data interfaces include an Administrative Module 102, a Dynamic Network Analyzer Module 104, a Loop Facilities and Control System Module 106, a Technician Dispatch Module 108, and a Clear Defective Pairs Module 110. A Loop Engineering Information System module may also be included as shown and as described in U.S. Patent Application Serial No.09/726,751, filed concurrently herewith, titled "Proactive Maintenance Application", and incorporated herein by reference in its entirety. The Proactive Maintenance Application Database 74, in addition, accepts manually-entered supervisor data 112 and manually-entered technician data 114. Each interface and data input provides information for predicting proactive maintenance procedures. The Proactive Maintenance Application Database 74 acquires and combines all this information. The Proactive Maintenance Application Database 74 predicts, based upon the combined information, what proactive maintenance procedures should be performed to maintain the local loop. The Proactive Maintenance Application Database 74 priorities these proactive maintenance procedures. The Proactive Maintenance Application Database then interfaces with the Technician Dispatch Module 108 to generate and to dispatch proactive maintenance work orders. These proactive maintenance work orders are assigned to field service technicians, and the field service technicians perform the predicted proactive maintenance procedures.